Kaskaskia College held a ceremony marking the groundbreaking for the expanded Trenton Education Center on May 31 at the Trenton Center. Construction and renovation at the site was expected to begin Monday to expand the Trenton Center from its current 3,800 square feet to nearly 16,000 square feet of instructional space, including new classrooms, computer and nursing labs, and an Industrial Occupations area.

Dr. James Underwood, president of Kaskaskia College (KC), recognized and thanked those in attendance, many of whom have been instrumental in the planning and fundraising efforts for the new center, which is funded by a combination of bond extensions approved by the KC Board of Trustees along with private donations.

"The vision of this project started several years ago to continue to make education accessible and affordable to its residents," Dr. Underwood said. "We are very grateful that the city recognizes the value of educational opportunities in the region and have gone above and beyond to support this project." Kyle Jones, Trenton’s mayor, took to the podium to emphasize the importance of the new center to the economic well-being of the area.

"How does this college benefit our area?" Mayor Jones asked. "Beyond what it does by offering the opportunity for education to our residents, this college is an opportunity for growth in the region. This isn’t just about Trenton. It is about the benefit to western Clinton County."

Dr. Dee Boswell, vice president of the Board of Trustees, presented the history of the college and the board’s total support for expanding the Trenton Education Center.

Trenton Education Center Director Arlene Covington specially thanked State Farm agent Herb Schlarmann, who has agreed to allow space in his office to house some of the Trenton Center functions while construction is ongoing, as well as the local high schools and churches for allowing use of their space for classes. Kellie Hensley, KC’s dean of Arts and Sciences and chair of the design committee for the new space, walked the attendees through the expansion, highlighting changes to be made for phase one and ongoing plans for more programs to migrate to the Trenton Center.

"Kudos to you for recognizing the value of this facility to all of Western Clinton County," Evans said.

Plans are for the center to re-open in the spring 2014.

TRENTON EDUCATION CENTER EXPECTED TO OPEN FOR CLASSES DURING THE SPRING 2014 SEMESTER

CLASSES ARE BEING MOVED TO OTHER TEMPORARY SITES IN THE TRENTON AREA DURING CONSTRUCTION
Student athletes honored for volleyball include: Sophomore Courtney Crocker (Breece) - All Defense Award and MVP, Sophomore Brooke Moxey (St. Elmo) - All Offensive Award, Sophomore Liz Pulitzer (Trenton) - All Blue Angel Award, Sophomore Casey Eiter (Albers) - All Serving Award, and Freshman Alexia Koerkenmeier (Trenton) - All Most Improved. Pictured are KC Women's Volleyball Coach Kim Rahar, Alexia Koerkenmeier, Courtney Crocker, Brooke Moxey, Liz Pulitzer, and Casey Eiter.

Volleyball

Cheerleading

Students' athletes honored for cheerleading were: Devon Cook (New Baden) - Most Valuable and Two-Year Award, Adrienne Brammer (Carlyle) - Most Improved, Brecam Milacek (Lebanon) - Attitude Award, Sarah Kennedy (Breece) - All-Around Award, Halie Row (Carlyle) - All-Around Award, Katie Nattier (Potosa) - Leadership Award, Roszell Mosley (New Barden) - Coach's Award, and Molly Grant (Greencastle) - Two-Year Award. Pictured are FIRST ROW - Halie Row, Katie Nattier and Adrienne Brammer. SECOND ROW - Assistant Coach Andrea Uible, Sarah Kennedy, Devon Cook, Roszell Mosley (New Barden), Brecam Milacek (Lebanon) and Head Coach Stephanie Burgher.

Kaskaskia College held its Annual Athletic Awards Reception on April 23 and awards were presented to student athletes for outstanding achievement in athletics.

Blue Devils Tennis

Students' athletes honored for men's tennis were: Chris Heckman (Salem) - MVP, LEFT, and Jaime Zanton (Centralia) - All Most Improved.

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Blue Devils Soccer

Awards handed out for men’s soccer include: Dominic Antonacci (Breese) — Defensive Player of the Year; Nick Frey (Marion) — Offensive Player of the Year; and Josh Mieldezis (Marion) — Blue Devil MVP. Pictured are Nick Frey, Josh Mieldezis, Dominic Antonacci and Coach Frankie Basurto.

Cross Country

Student athletes honored for cross country were Josh Bergbower (Bluford) — Blue Devil Best Runner; Jacob Heser (Salem) — Blue Devil Most Improved; Jenna Wilenmon (Mt. Vernon) — Blue Angel Best Runner; Mallory Wendling (Altamont) — Blue Angel Award; and Laura Pick (Nashville) — Blue Angel Most Improved. Pictured, IN THE PHOTO ABOVE, are Josh Bergbower and Jacob Heser.

Blue Angels Soccer

Students athletes honored for women’s soccer include: Sophomore Miranda Burroughs (Poplar Bluff, Mo.) — Offensive MVP; Sophomore Alison Roekenkenmier (Trenton) — Defensive MVP; Sophomore Kylie Seyer (Jackson, Mo.) — Blue Angel Award; Freshman Marina Burroughs (Poplar Bluff, Mo.) — Rookie of the Year, and Hannah Pence (Mt. Vernon) — Most Improved. Pictured are Miranda Burroughs, Kylie Seyer, Marissa Burroughs, Alison Roekenkenmier and Coach Joe Basch.

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Stay active with sports this summer!